THE RUBBER STEALING PREVENTION BILL.

Mr. Richardson.—Sir, I beg to apply for permission to introduce, at the next Meeting of the Council, a Bill to provide for the prevention of rubber-stealing.

Permission was granted accordingly.

THE BREACH OF CONTRACT REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Ananda Row.—Sir, the Breach of Contract Regulation Amendment Bill, which I introduce to-day, is a very simple affair. The amendment proposed, as you already know from the Bill published in the Gazette, relates to Section 3. The necessity for the amendment is not far to seek. The existing Regulation is meant to help masters or employers who, in connection with their trade or business, have to deal constantly with artificers, workmen and labourers. That being so, you will at once see that the amendment proposed is nothing but desirable. In the ordinary course of dealing with the artificers, workmen or labourers, by their employers, advances will and must have to be made, and they may be in cash or in kind. The Regulation, as it now exists, contemplates only advances in cash, as has been judicially construed. But the labourers, artificers and workmen do often require advances in kind as well. And the employers cannot but accede to these requirements in the interest of these men. If, after such advances made on the request and requirement of these men, the employers are debarred from recovering the same as provided by the Regulation, the object of the Regulation becomes more or less frustrated. It is to avoid this sad state of affairs that the present amendment is proposed, and I commend the Amendment Bill to your consideration.

Mr. Madhavan Tampi.—Sir, I submit that I cannot agree to the principle of the Bill, as the effect of the proposed law will be to place the workmen in a state of perpetual bondage in the hands of unscrupulous employers.

Mr. Sri Narayanan Tampi was also against the affirmation of the principle of the Bill. The motion that the principle of the Bill be affirmed was put to the vote and was carried by a majority.

Mr. Ananda Row then proposed that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Mr. Vieyra, Mr. Kesava Pillai and the Mover, to report within one month.

Seconded by Mr. Krishnan Nair.

Carried.

THE STAMP REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Ananda Row.—Sir, the Amendment Bill has been published in the Gazette. The Statement of Objects and Reasons explains fully the necessity for the Bill. I have nothing to add to what I have already stated therein. I beg to move that the principle of the Bill be affirmed.

Seconded by Mr. Vieyra.

Carried.

Mr. Ananda Row then proposed that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Mr. Vieyra, Mr. Kesava Pillai and the Mover, to report within one month.

Seconded by Mr. Subrahmania Iyer.

Carried.

THE REVENUE RECOVERY REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Ananda Row.—The Revenue Recovery Regulation Amendment Bill, which I introduce to-day, relates only to the first para of Section 51 of the existing Regulation, I of 1068. It has been recently judicially construed that the six-months

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